

# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 2003 BIG GAME PROCLAMATION

**1** Apply or purchase big game permits online: [www.wildlife.utah.gov](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov)

**2** Resident and nonresident Premium Limited Entry, Limited Entry, Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU), Once-In-A-Lifetime and General Buck Deer, General Muzzleloader Elk (ML300) and Youth General Any Bull Elk (YH499) **drawing applications** are available January 3, 2003. The **application deadline** is January 31, 2003. Drawing results will be available April 30, 2003. A drawing for **remaining permits** will be held. Application deadline is 5 p.m. May 21, 2003. Results will be available June 20, 2003. See Sections XVII. and XVIII.

**3** A special **youth bull elk** hunting opportunity is available through the drawing. (YH499) See Section XX.D.

**4** **Youth deer hunters:** Any person 18 years of age or younger may hunt all three general deer seasons. In order to do so, that person must obtain either a general season (rifle) or a general muzzleloader permit for a specific region. See Section XIX.

**5** Limited entry and general **permit numbers** will not be provided in the hunt tables in order to utilize up-to-date harvest and population census data. The 2003 permit numbers will be set by the Wildlife Board after the application period but prior to the big game drawing.

**6** Personal checks, money orders, cashier's checks and American Express, Discover, MasterCard and VISA credit cards are **accepted for payment**. Personal checks drawn on an out-of-state account are not accepted.

**7** **Late applications** will not be considered in the drawing, but will be processed for the purpose of entering data into the Division's draw database to provide future preprinted applications, and re-evaluation on Division or third-party errors. The \$5 handling fee will be used to process late applications. However, late applications received after February 14, 2003 will not be processed and will be returned.

**8** Nonresident or resident general deer permits remaining after all choices have been evaluated in the remaining drawing **will be issued** to the next applicant without regard to residency. See Section XVIII.G.

**9** The Archery AR 301 elk hunt now includes the Wasatch Mountains limited entry unit. The number of permits available has increased. See Section XX.F.

**10** The name of the Manti unit, which includes the Nebo and Manti subunits, has been changed to **Central Mountains**.

**11** **Nine Mile, Range Creek South** elk unit has special regulations: Private lands

remain under any bull regulations. Public lands are limited entry and permits must be obtained through the drawing. Access is restricted and very difficult.

**12** **Pronghorn waiting period** has been reduced from five to two years. See Section XVII.I.3.

**13** After the draw for remaining permits, any Premium Limited Entry, Limited Entry, CWMU, Once-in-a-Lifetime, General Buck Deer, General Muzzleloader Elk (ML300) and Youth General Any Bull Elk (YH499) **permits that remain** will be available from Division offices, through the mail, and the Division's Internet address beginning 7:30 a.m. **July 17, 2003**. Any resident or nonresident may purchase any general deer permit that remains.

**14** The Division may **void and reissue permits** when the payment from personal checks or credit cards is invalid. See Sections XVII.C.(5), XVIII.C.5, and XXV.(10).

**15** General elk permits will go on sale beginning **July 17, 2003** at Division offices and Internet address and participating license agents.

**16** **New any bull elk areas:** Fillmore, Oak Creek North, Henry Mountains and West Desert, East.

**17** **Auxiliary permits** — which provide muzzleloader and archery opportunities — are available for certain limited entry elk units. See Section XX.E.

**18** **Five Day Hunts:** General season deer hunts in the entire Southeastern Region and the Pine Valley and Zion units in the Southern Region will be five days only — from October 18 through October 22, 2003.

**19** Archers choosing to participate in an **extended archery season** must obtain an extended archery area permit from the Division. A \$5.00 handling fee applies. One extended archery area permit allows an archer to hunt any extended archery area during the extended season as provided in Section XIX.A. for deer and Section XX.A. for elk.

**20** **Wasatch Front Extended Archery Orientation Course** — **Certificate of Completion Required.** Successful completion of a hunter orientation course and possession of the certificate while hunting is required to participate in the Wasatch Front Extended Archery hunt. The orientation course is in addition to the Hunter Education requirement. The orientation course will be available online through the Division's Internet site at: [www.wildlife.utah.gov](http://www.wildlife.utah.gov) and other locations to be announced. See Section XIX.A. for deer and XX.A. for elk. The continuation of the Wasatch

Front Extended Archery hunt depends upon hunters acting responsibly.

**21** **Two new extended archery areas** have been added for general elk archery hunters: Nebo–West Desert and Sanpete Valley. Season dates are November 15 through December 31.

**22** An **orientation course is required** to hunt in the female only Rocky Mountain goat hunts. See Section XXIII.D.

**23** **Hunter orange** must be worn when any centerfire rifle hunt is in progress in the same area, including CWMUs and extended archery areas. For exceptions, see Section VI.B.

**24** Deadline to join the **Dedicated Hunter Program** is April 1. If you intend to join the dedicated hunter program, you should not apply for general deer permits through the drawing. See Section XIX.G.

**25** Hunters desiring to **surrender a permit**, in order to obtain another permit for the same species, must do so prior to the season opening date of the permit to be surrendered. Dedicated Hunters desiring to surrender their Dedicated Hunter Permit must do so prior to August 16, 2003 (the opening of the general archery deer season).

**26** Archery elk and muzzleloader elk (ML 300) hunters **may not harvest an antlerless elk** on the Plateau, Fish Lake-Thousand Lakes subunits.

**27** Because of concerns about **Chronic Wasting Disease**, new rules apply to importation or transportation of dead mule deer, elk and white-tailed deer through or into Utah. See Section X.D.

**28** A person may not hunt big game within  $\frac{1}{2}$ -mile of **Silver Lake in Big Cottonwood Canyon**, Salt Lake County.

**29** **PRIVATE LANDS:** While taking wildlife or engaging in wildlife related activities, a person may not, without the written permission of the owner or person in charge, enter upon privately owned land that is cultivated or properly posted. "**Cultivated land**" means land which is readily identifiable as: 1) land whose soil is loosened or broken up for the raising of crops; 2) land used for the raising of crops; or 3) pasturage which is artificially irrigated. The DWR cannot guarantee access to any private land. If you plan to hunt in an area that is all or mostly private lands, you must also obtain WRITTEN permission from the landowner or person in charge. Unless otherwise provided, all hunt units exclude CWMUs and Native American Tribal Lands.